

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. A method for testing cellular network integrity using telematics, the method comprising:
 - determining at least one network condition data at a telematics unit;
 - establishing a data call communication channel between the telematics unit and the telematics call center; and
 - transmitting at least one network condition data to the telematics
 - 10 call center via the established data call communication channel.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - recognizing a failure to establish the data call from the telematics unit to the telematics call center; and
 - 15 writing the network condition data to an in-vehicle memory based on the recognized failure.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein determining at least one network condition data comprises:
 - 20 initiating a test for at least one network condition data;
 - generating a memory record for the network condition data at the telematics unit; and
 - writing the network condition data to the memory record.
- 25 4. The method of claim 1 wherein establishing a data call communication channel between the telematics unit and the telematics call center comprises:
 - initiating a data call from the telematics unit to a telematics call center; and
 - 30 detecting the data call communication channel between the telematics unit and the call center.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the data call is initiated at a substantially regular interval.

5 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the data call is initiated at a predetermined test point.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the network condition data comprises one or more types of data selected from the group consisting of: a properly loaded number verification, a measured and stored GPS coordinate comparison, a cellular traffic load measurement, a no cellular coverage area identification, and a no GPS coverage area identification.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein the data call communication channel is a cleared number data call communication channel.

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9. A computer usable medium including computer program code for testing cellular network integrity using telematics comprising:

computer program code for determining at least one network condition data at a telematics unit;

computer program code for establishing a data call communication channel between the telematics unit and the telematics call center; and

computer program code for transmitting at least one network condition data to the telematics call center via the established data call communication channel.

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10. The computer usable medium of claim 9 further comprising:
computer program code for recognizing a failure to establish the
data call from the telematics unit to the telematics call center; and
5 computer program code for writing the network condition data to an
in-vehicle memory based on the recognized failure.

11. The computer usable medium of claim 9 wherein computer
program code for determining at least one network condition data comprises:
10 computer program code for initiating a test for at least one network
condition data;
computer program code for generating a memory record for the
network condition data at the telematics unit; and
computer program code for writing the network condition data to the
15 memory record.

12. The computer usable medium of claim 9 wherein, computer
program code for establishing a data call communication channel between the
telematics unit and the telematics call center comprises:
20 computer program code for initiating a data call from the telematics
unit to a telematics call center; and
computer program code for detecting the data call communication
channel between the telematics unit and the call center.

25 13. The computer usable medium of claim 9 wherein the data call is
initiated at a substantially regular interval.

14. The computer usable medium of claim 9 wherein the data call is
initiated at a predetermined test point.
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15. The computer usable medium of claim 9, wherein the network condition data comprises one or more types of data selected from the group consisting of: a properly loaded cleared number verification, a measured and stored GPS coordinate comparison, a cellular traffic load measurement, a no cellular coverage area identification, and a no GPS coverage area identification.

16. The computer usable medium of claim 9, wherein the data call is a cleared number data call.

17. A system for testing cellular network integrity using telematics, the system comprising:

means for determining at least one network condition data at a telematics unit;

means for establishing a data call communication channel between the telematics unit and the telematics call center; and

means for transmitting at least one network condition data to the telematics call center via the established data call communication channel.

18. The system of claim 17 further comprising:

means for recognizing a failure to establish the data call from the telematics unit to the telematics call center; and

means for writing the network condition data to an in-vehicle memory based on the recognized failure.

19. The system of claim 17 wherein means for determining at least one network condition data comprises:

means for initiating a test for at least one network condition data;

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means for generating a memory record for the network condition data at the telematics unit; and

means for writing the network condition data to the memory record.

20. The system of claim 17 wherein means for establishing a data call communication channel between the telematics unit and the telematics call center comprises:

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means for initiating a data call from the telematics unit to a telematics call center; and

means for detecting the data call communication channel between the telematics unit and the call center.

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21. The system of claim 17 wherein the data call is initiated at a substantially regular interval.

22. The system of claim 17, wherein the network condition data comprises one or more types of data selected from the group consisting of: a properly loaded cleared number verification, a measured and stored GPS coordinate comparison, a cellular traffic load measurement, a no cellular coverage area identification, and a no GPS coverage area identification.

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23. The system of claim 17 wherein the data call is a cleared number data call.